IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims.

Claims 1-29 (canceled)

- 1 Claim 30. (previously presented) A security system comprising:
- 2 an activation token identifying system characteristics and
- 3 specifying a threat level and at least one preset activation measure,
- 4 wherein a system characteristic is one of the group of a hardware
- 5 system, a service, a configuration of a service, a service execution
- 6 platform, and a service version;
- 7 a first system configured to at least review security and
- 8 vulnerability information from information publishers and to provide
- 9 the activation token based on the security and vulnerability
- 10 information; and
- a second system configured to determine whether the activation
- 12 token is relevant by checking if actual characteristics at the second
- 13 system correspond to the system characteristics identified by the
- 14 activation token, the second system further configured to transform the
- 15 activation token into at least one activation measure if the activation
- 16 token is considered relevant by the second system, the activation
- 17 measure configured to modify services executing at the second system.
- Claim 31. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, further
- 2 comprising a cryptographic means configured to verify at the second
- 3 system that the first system is a trusted service.
- 1 Claim 32. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, further
- 2 comprising a reporting means configured to report to a system
- 3 administrator of the second system activation measures taken by the
- 4 second system.
- 1 Claim 33. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein
- 2 the first system is further configured to automatically filter the
- 3 security and vulnerability information relevant to the system
- 4 characteristics identified by the activation token.
- 1 Claim 34. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, further
- 2 comprising a list of a plurality of trusted service providers from whom
- 3 activation tokens are accepted by the second system.

- Claim 35. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein
- 2 the at least one preset activation measure is shutting down a service
- 3 affected by the specified threat level.
- 1 Claim 36. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein
- 2 the at least one preset activation measure is reconfiguring the
- 3 functionality of a service affected by the specified threat level.
- 1 Claim 37. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein
- 2 the at least one preset activation measure is installing a patch for a
- 3 service affected by the specified threat level.
- Claim 38. (previously presented) The system of claim 30, wherein
- 2 the at least one preset activation measure is alerting a system
- 3 administrator.

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